

# County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012 (213) 974-1101

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE Second District

> ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

> > DON KNABE Fourth District

First District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH Fifth District

June 19, 2001

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

# PROPOSITION 218 ASSESSMENT BALLOTS-COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES LIGHTING DISTRICT LLA-1 (PALMDALE ZONE) (FIFTH) (3 VOTES)

#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

- Support the assessments on County owned properties within the boundaries of the County of Los Angeles Lighting District LLA-1 (Palmdale Zone) for the operation and maintenance of street lighting at an annual cost of \$462, and direct the Chief Administrative Officer to cast ballots in support of the assessments for the properties.
- 2. Find that the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

#### PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

As a result of the passage of Proposition 218, property owned by government agencies, including Los Angeles County, became subject to assessment by various County and non-County assessment districts on July 1, 1997. The County, like other property owners, is able to cast ballots supporting or opposing the assessments and its ballots will be weighted to reflect its proportionate share of the total assessment.

One such district which is in the process of seeking property owner approval for an assessment is a lighting district in the County of Los Angeles, identified as County Lighting District LLA-1 (Palmdale Zone). Since the County owns properties within the boundaries of this district, it has the right to participate in the balloting on the assessment. This is a County assessment district and the public hearing on the proposed assessment is scheduled for June 26, 2001.

The County properties which these ballots represent contain various County facilities. The County adopted a Resolution of Intention on April 24, 2001, to levy the proposed assessments, including the County owned properties. The Fire Department (FD) and Department of Public Works (DPW) have determined that the services to be financed by the County's assessment district will be of sufficient benefit to warrant the Board's support. Accordingly, it is recommended that your ballots be completed as supporting the County's assessment.

In order to be approved under Proposition 218, the majority of property owners who return their ballots will have to approve the proposed assessments with their ballots being weighted according to their individual assessments based on the size, location, type of improvements and benefits received by the property. The proposed district's total additional annual assessment amount is \$900,000 to provide for ongoing operation and maintenance of the existing street lighting system necessary for the satisfactory operation of these services in the County lighting district zone for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001-02.

#### Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs that we invest in public infrastructure, in order to strengthen the County's fiscal capacity. Support for the benefit assessments levied against the County properties to facilitate servicing and maintenance of street lighting fills an identified need and supports this strategy by complying with the Strategic Asset Management Principles (Goal 3, Strategy 3, Objective 3.3.2).

#### FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The total additional assessment for FY 2001-02 to be levied on the subject County properties is \$462. Additional total annual operational and maintenance assessments are anticipated beginning in FY 2002-03 estimated for the subject County properties at \$462, which may be adjusted in subsequent years for any increases in the Consumer Price Index or a re-balloting of property owners, except for normal Southern California Edison Company energy increases.

We propose to charge the assessments to the benefitting departments which have jurisdiction over the assessed parcels. Based on your Board's approval of other Proposition 218 assessments, this is in keeping with the current policy and practice of charging such assessments to the County departments occupying or deriving use from the assessed property. The FD, DPW and this office are aware of and support this financing plan. Future financing for approved assessments will be addressed as part of the annual budget process.

The financial cost of paying this increased assessment on the budgets of the FD and DPW is not significant and can be absorbed within the departments' FY 2001-02 budget appropriations.

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#### FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Proposition 218, approved by the voters in November, 1996, requires public agencies to send ballots to all affected property owners prior to increasing or imposing a new assessment. The agency cannot increase an assessment or impose a new assessment if a majority of the ballots returned oppose the proposed assessment. The ballots are weighted according to the proposed assessment amount of the properties. In addition, publicly owned properties will no longer be exempt from the assessment unless the parcels receive no special benefit.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

This project is categorically exempt as specified under Appendix G, Class 1, of the Revised Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, which allows the repair and minor alterations of existing public facilities and/or utilities used to provide electric power, natural gas, water, sewage, or other public services involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that previously existing at the facility.

#### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Approval of this benefit assessment will help ensure the maintenance and public safety of the streets and highways within the assessment district.

#### **CONCLUSION**

It is requested that the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, return the adopted stamped Board letter to the Chief Administrative Office, Real Estate Division, 222 South Hill Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID E. JANSSEN

Chief Administrative Officer

DEJ:SNY CWW:RC:jf

Attachment (1)

c: County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Department of Public Works
Fire Department

PLEASE MAIL THIS BALLOT BY THURSDAY, JUNE 21. 2001, TO THE ADDRESS SHOWN ON THE ENCLOSED POSTAGE PAID ENVELOPE, OR PRESENT THE BALLOT IN PERSON AT THE PUBLIC HEARING ON TUESDAY, JUNE 26, 2001, IN THE HEARING ROOM OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, ROOM 381 B, KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION, 500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA

May 8, 2001

Dear Property Owner:

STREET LIGHTING ASSESSMENT INCREASE COUNTY LIGHTING DISTRICT LLA-1, PALMDALE ZONE

Due to increased electrical energy costs and diminished reserves, it is necessary to increase the street lighting assessment on your property from \$0 to \$154 for Taxable Year 2001-2002 to allow the lighting district to continue to operate. In future years, the amount of this assessment may be automatically increased based on Public Utility Commission approved rate increases for Southern California Edison street lighting charges. This proposed 2001-2002 assessment in the City of Palmdale will provide an additional \$773,000 which is now needed to continue the operation and maintenance of the existing street lighting system in the city. Without approval of this assessment increase, it is anticipated that some or all of the street lights will be turned off.

(continues on back side)

POR FAVOR ENVIE SU BOLETA NO MAS TARDAR DEL JUEVES, 21 DE JUNIO DE 2001, A LA DIRECCIÓN INDICADA EN EL SOBRE DE CORREO PREPAGADO O PRESENTE LA BOLETA EN PERSONA A LA AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA EL MARTES, 26 DE JUNIO DE 2001 EN EL CUARTO DE AUDIENCIA DE LA JUNTA DE SUPERVISORES, ROOM 381 B, KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION, 500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA.

May 8, 2001

Estimado Propietario:

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(continua ai reverso)

	BALLOT regarding the continued operation of Street Lights in the City of Palmdale.  BOLETA referente a la operación continua de las Luces de las Calles en la Ciudad de Palmdale  am the owner of record or the authorized representative of the below Parcel No.			
,_	† Name Above/ Deletree	soy el propietario legitimo o el representante autorizado por el propietario de la Parcela No.:  30050409  Deletree su nombre arriba)  ASSESSED PROPERTY ADDRESS:  Project No. 2001-1/Parcel No.: 3005040900.		
Signed under penalty of perjury  Firme bajo multa de perjurio		jury	40163 DIVISION ST PALMDALE	

OWNER OF RECORD / Project No. 2001-1 THE FIRE LIKE SENTE WILL HAVE HER BEHELDE DER STELLEN DEN HAT HA L A CO WATERWORKS DIST NO 34 00500 TEMPLE ST LOS ANGELES CA 900120000

Please make sure you fold and insert this ballot so that the above information with your name and mailing address shows

through the upper left window of the Return Envelope.

Por favor asegurese de dobiar e insertar esta boleta de manera que la información con su nombre y dirección sea visible a través de la ventanilla izquierda superior del sobre de retorno.

> L A CO WATERWORKS DIST NO 34 00500 TEMPLE ST LOS ANGELES CA CA 900120000

#### VOTE FOR ONLY ONE. / VOTE SOLAMENTE POR UNO.

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I am in favor of the increased assessment of \$154 per year for a total assessment of \$154 on the parcel identified below for the continued operation and maintenance of existing street lights.

SI, estoy en favor de un aumento de \$154 por año. Esto incrementară mi impuesto total presente a \$154 en el lote identificado abajo para la operación y el mantenimiento continuo de luces de calles existentes.

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I am opposed to the proposed increased assessment (recognizing that without an increase, some or all of the street lights are expected to be turned off).

#### ∐ NO/NO

NO, estoy opuesto al aumento de impuesto propuesto (reconociendo que sin un aumento, algunas or todas las luces de calles pueden ser apagadas).

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(continua al reverso)

 ./Yo.	BALLOT regarding the continued operation of Street Lights in the City of Palmdale.  BOLETA referente a la operación continua de las Luces de las Calles en la Ciudad de Palmdale  , am the owner of record or the authorized representative of the below Parcel No.:				
	† soy el propietario leg Name Above/ Deletree su nombre arriba)	ASSESSED PROPERTY ADDRESS: Project No. 2001-1/Parcel No.: 3009024907.			
Signed under penalty of perjury Firme bajo multa de perjurio		38318 9TH ST E PALMDALE  VOTE FOR ONLY ONE / VOTE SOLAMENTE POR UNO.			

OWNER OF RECORD / Project No. 2001-1 L A COUNTY CONSOLIDATED FIRE 00500 TEMPLE ST LOS ANGELES CA 900120000

Please make sure you fold and insert this ballot so that the above information with your name and mailing address shows through the upper left window of the Return Envelope.

Por favor asegurese de doblar e insenar esta boleta de manera que la información con su nombre y dirección sea visible a través de la ventanilla izquierda superior del sobre de retorno.

> L A COUNTY CONSOLIDATED FIRE 00500 TEMPLE ST LOS ANGELES CA CA 900120000

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YES/SI

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1 11116	uajo mara ve porper.	VOTE FOR ONLY ONE / VOTE SOLAMENTE POR UNO.			

OWNER OF RECORD / Project No. 2001-1 

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# STREET LIGHTING ASSESSMENT BALLOT AND PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

# FOR ALL PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE PALMDALE ZONE OF COUNTY LIGHTING DISTRICT LLA-1

#### \*\* PLEASE RETURN ENCLOSED BALLOT \*\*

It is important that you read this information and return the ballot in the postage paid envelope provided to ensure the continued operation and maintenance of street lights in your city.

The County of Los Angeles administers the operation and maintenance of street lights in the City of Palmdale through an assessment district entitled County Lighting District LLA-1, Palmdale Zone. These street lights provide an important public safety benefit for residents, motorists, and pedestrians by increasing nighttime visibility of the streets and adjacent sidewalks. Street lights act as a crime deterrent by illuminating these areas and property frontages. Funding for the street lights in the Palmdale Zone is primarily provided by annual assessments collected from the property owners benefited by these street lights. The street lighting assessment for each property is based on land use (for example, single-family residence, commercial business, etc.). The proposed assessment will commence Fiscal Year 2001-2002, and will be renewed each subsequent fiscal year with the Board of Supervisors approval of the Annual Engineer's Report. For more particulars, you may refer to the Engineer's Report on file in the office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, Room 383, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California. Unless the current street lighting assessment is increased, there will be inadequate revenue available for this street lighting district to continue the operation and maintenance of the street lights.

The County will hold a public meeting and a public hearing to consider the increased assessment on the following dates, at the times, and locations indicated.

Public meeting on Monday, May 14, 2001 at 6:00 p.m. at the Multi-Purpose Room of Highland High School, 39055 25<sup>th</sup> Street West, Palmdale, California 93551.

Public hearing on Tuesday, June 26, 2001 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hearing Room of the Board of Supervisors, Room 381 B, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012.

Your ballot is enclosed. Only one ballot may be completed for each parcel except that, if a parcel has multiple owners, any owner may request the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at the address shown immediately above to provide separate proportional ballots to all of the owners of the parcel. Such a request must be made in writing no later than <u>Friday</u>, <u>June 15</u>, <u>2001</u>, and must include the names and mailing addresses of all owners and satisfactory evidence of their proportional ownership interests in the parcel.

Only ballots provided by the County will be counted. Copies of ballots will not be accepted. Please contact the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at the address shown above to receive a duplicate ballot if your ballot has been lost or destroyed. Ballots will be tabulated at the conclusion of the public hearing. A ballot may be withdrawn prior to that time by written request to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at the address shown above.

All ballots must be received by the County before the conclusion of the public hearing on June 26, 2001. If you mail your ballot, it must be received by the County <u>no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 25, 2001.</u>

In addition to returning your ballot, you may file a written protest against this proposed increased assessment any time prior to the conclusion of the public hearing by sending it to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at the address shown above. The written protest must identify the property owned and must state all grounds for objection. The protest may be withdrawn in writing prior to the conclusion of the public hearing.

If you have any questions, please contact the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works at (626) 300-4891.

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